

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant : Culbert et al.  
App. No : 10/623,193  
Filed : July 18, 2003  
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
SPINAL FIXATION  
Examiner : Anuradha Ramana  
Art Unit : 3775  
Conf No. : 2665

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is a PTO/SB/08 Equivalent listing 28 references to be considered by the Examiner. Also enclosed are 12 foreign patent references and 2 non-patent literature document as listed on the Information Disclosure Statement.

The cited references, U.S. Patent No. 6,685,706, 7,326,211, and U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2005/0143734, 2006/0217711, 2008/0108996, 2008/0097436, 2008/0306537, 2009/0069813, are related U.S. applications. The files of these applications may contain office actions, attorney arguments, allowed claims or indications of allowable subject matter, and cited references which the Examiner may consider to be relevant and/or material to the present application. In addition, as some or all of these applications may still be pending, future office actions, attorney arguments, notices of allowances, and cited references may be included in these files. It is the understanding of the Applicants that the Examiner has access to these files on a continuing basis, including any present or future office actions, attorney arguments, allowed claims or indications of allowable subject matter, or cited references listed therein, for review if the Examiner feels these documents are in anyway relevant or material to the examination of the present claims. If, however, the Examiner does not have access to these files or would like Applicants to provide copies of any office actions, attorney arguments, allowed claims or

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indication of allowable subject matter, or cited references, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (949) 721-6378, at the below listed phone number, or at the address of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date, with an RCE or before receipt of a first office action after an RCE and no fee is required.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: November 20, 2009

By: \_\_\_\_\_ /Nathan S. Smith/

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